THE HUMAN TORCH

10¢

NO. 24

COMICS

ELECTRONIC RAY TORCH CONTROL

PLUS SUB-MARINER

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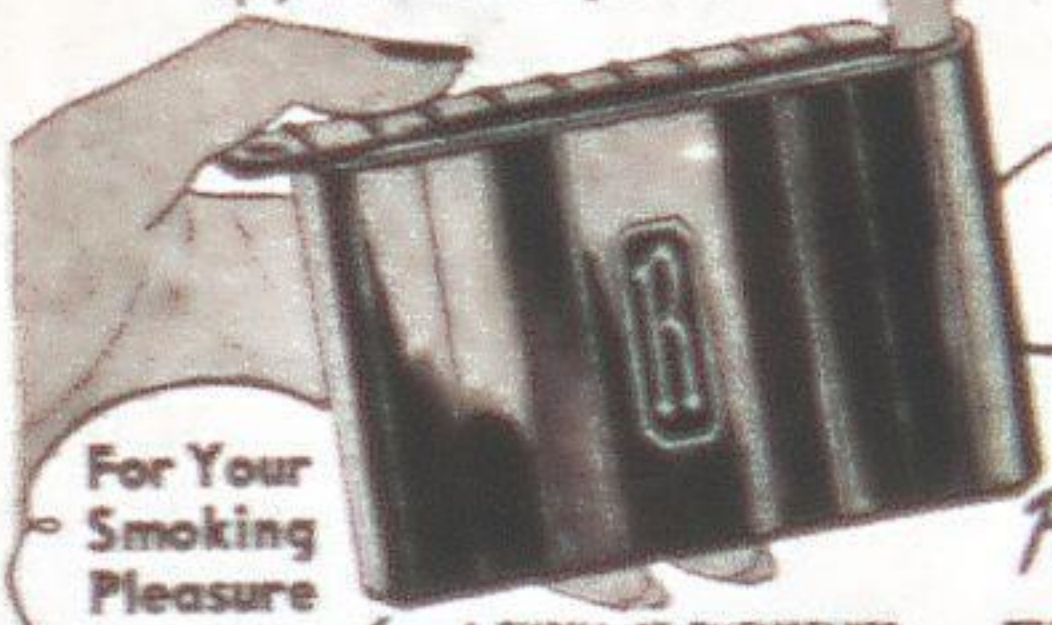

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THE HUMAN TORCH

OUT OF THE ANNALS OF ACTUAL CRIME, CASES COME MANY STRANGE STORIES! BUT THE HORROR TALE OF A MAD SUPERNATURAL CREATURE OF DEATH STRIKING UNDER THE SHAFTS OF SILVERY MOONLIGHT, IS THE WEIRDEST OF ALL---! TORCH AND TOBY HAVE A THRILLING, SPINE-CHILLING TIME OF IT--- AND SO WILL YOU-- AS YOU FOLLOW THIS FAMED TEAM AS THEY SMASH THE BIZARRE MYSTERY OF ---

"The WEREWOLF HORROR!"

ONE NIGHT, IN A PEACEFUL CONNECTICUT COUNTRYSIDE---

SURE HAD A GOOD LODGE MEETING-- WHO'S TAKING THE BRIDGE ROAD HOME?

I AM!

I'LL SHORT-CUT THRU THE WOODS! I'D LIKE TO GET HOME EARLY!

MINUTES AFTER!

HELP! HELP!

SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE!

IT'S FROM THE WOODS! COME ON!

RACING INTO THE DENSE THICKETS, THE MEN FIND---

LEMUEL--CLAWED TO DEATH!

A WOLF! LUCKY I'VE GOT MY GUN!

GUN-FIRE BLAZES TO NO AVAIL--!

IT GOT AWAY! FUNNY, A WOLF IN THESE PARTS!

CAN'T TELL WHEN IT'LL STRIKE AGAIN! LET'S GET OUT!

A WEEK PASSES--THEN ONE EVENING IN THE NEW YORK APARTMENT OF TORCH AND TOPO--

TELEGRAM FOR YOU, TORCH!

BOY--- I HOPE WE'RE WANTED ON A CASE! WE'VE HAD NOTHING TO DO FOR A LONG TIME!

WESTERN UNION

HUMAN TORCH
PLAZA HOTEL, N.Y.C.

URGENT YOU COME AT ONCE WOLF ON RAMPAGE. KILLED 6 PEOPLE IN WEEK. WE TRIED TO HUNT IT DOWN BUT CAN'T. YOU ARE OUR LAST HOPE. PLEASE COME.

CITIZENS COUNCIL
RIDGEFIELD, CONN.

LIKE HIGH-POWERED BULLETS, THE TORRID TEAM SPEEDS THROUGH THE NIGHT!

HERE'S RIDGEFIELD!

LOOK AT THE CROWD!

WORDS TUMBLE FROM AN EXCITED THRONG--

CAN'T TELL WHERE THE WOLF'LL STRIKE NEXT!

HE STRIKES EVERY TIME THE FULL MOON IS OUT!

AS THE DARING DUO HEADS TOWARDS THE WOODS--

HOLD IT, TORO! WHAT GIVES THERE?

I WARNED YOU, JOEL, STAY AWAY FROM PEGGY!

FATHER, DON'T!

HEY!

PARDON MY FLAME BUT YOU MIGHT HAVE HURT THE FELLOW!

THANKS, TORCH-- JOEL --- OH, HE'S GONE!

SHE HARDLY KNOWS JOEL. HE AND HIS FATHER ARRIVED THREE WEEKS AGO! SOMEHOW I HAVE A STRONG DISLIKING FOR HIM! LOVE, BAH! I'M GOING WOLF HUNTING!

TORCH, WILL YOU GIVE THIS NOTE TO JOEL, PLEASE. HE AND HIS FATHER LIVE IN THE FIRST HOUSE TO THE RIGHT OF THE BIG HILL.

OF COURSE I WILL --- MMM, MOON'S STARTING TO APPEAR!

WHILE THE TEAM FLAME-WINGS ON ITS SEARCH, MOONLIGHT FLOODS THE LAND!

A FULL MOON—BUT I DON'T SEE ANY... OH-OH! LISTEN!

THE WOLF HOWL! WE'LL FOLLOW THE SOUND!

A LIGHTNING FLIGHT AND.....

LOOK! NO TIME TO LOSE!

HELP! HELP!

SENSING DANGER, THE BEAST BOUNDS AWAY!

SUDDEN SHOTS RING THE AREA, DISTRACTING THE DUO. THE WOLF MAKING GOOD HIS ESCAPE!

IT GOT AWAY!

DIDN'T I KILL IT? I SAW IT ON THE ROCK AND AIMED AT IT!

SOME HUNTER, JONES! GET THAT MAN FIRST AID! COME, OH, TORO!

THE FULL MOON FADES --- AND SOMETIME LATER ---

NOT A TRACE OF THE WOLF! WE'VE SEARCHED EVERYWHERE!

SAY --- LOOK! THOSE TRACKS IN THE MUD!

ODD -- THEY END HERE!

THERE'S JOEL -- THAT MUST BE THE TAYLOR HOME!

THIS IS FROM PEGGY -- SAY, WHERE'VE YOU BEEN, FELLOW? THAT GASH ON YOUR FACE ---?

I-I STUMBLED AND FELL AGAINST SOME ROCKS --- NOW -- PLEASE LET ME ALONE!

HE'S A STRANGE PERSON!

TRACKS NEAR HIS HOME -- THE WOLF BUSINESS STARTED AFTER THE TAYLORS MOVED HERE -- WE'RE PAYING THEM A VISIT -- NOW!

OH -- IT'S YOU AGAIN!

YES, WE'D LIKE TO MEET YOUR FATHER -- MMM, WHAT'S BURNING?

I'M JOEL'S FATHER -- NOW THAT YOU'VE MET ME, GOOD-NIGHT!

WOOF? THIS IS A WOLF SKIN -- DRIED -- AS IF YOU'VE HAD IT A GOOD WHILE!

IT'S A TROPHY FROM A HUNTING TRIP! WE GOT TIRED OF LOOKING AT IT, NOW --- GOOD-NIGHT!

THE PAIR FLAMES AWAY INTO A NOW INKY SKY, BUT MOMENTS AFTER RETURNS CAUTIOUSLY!

I'VE A STRANGER FEELING THAN EVER ABOUT THIS PLACE... LET'S LOOK AROUND!

PEERING CAUTIOUSLY THRU A BACK ROOM WINDOW, THE DUO SEES JOEL...

GOOD GOSH! HE'S SCRUBBING A WOLF PRINT!

YES, TORO— WE'LL KEEP A WATCH ON THIS HOUSE ALL NIGHT. I'VE A HUNCH SOMETHING'S GOING TO COME OUT OF HERE!

TIME TICKS BY — AND FINALLY, THE FIRST FLUSH OF DAWN.....

NOTHING HAPPENED!

COME ON, LAD! WE'RE GOING TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY. I WANT TO CHECK A FEW THINGS!

LATER...

WHAT A MUSTY DECREPIT LIBR... HUH? WEREWOLVES?

YES... I'VE A HUNCH HERE UP AGAINST ONE OF THEM...

IN EACH CASE KNOWN TO HAVE EXISTED THE AFFLICTED MAN TOOK ON AN ANIMAL FORM ONLY UNDER THE BRIGHT LIGHT OF A FULL MOON. WHEN CHANGED BACK FROM A WERE WOLF TO A HUMAN, THE MAN DID NOT REMEMBER WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE...

JOEL... THAT GASH ON HIS FACE... IT ALL CHECKS!

WE'VE GOT TO PROVE IT... TONIGHT!

ACCORDING TO THE ALMANAC, THERE'LL BE A FULL MOON TONIGHT AT 10 P.M.---

DAYLIGHT FINALLY FADES --- AND LATER, THE TWO FAMED FIGURES TAKE UP THEIR WATCH OF DEATH!

IT'S A QUARTER TO TEN!

WONDER WHAT JOEL'S DOING?

JOEL IS READING THE NOTE GIVEN TO HIM THE DAY BEFORE--

Dear Joel—
Can't get out tonight: Meet me tomorrow at ten, around the corner of my house. It will be safe.
Always yours
Peggy

THE NIGHT IS SO DARK, THERE WON'T BE A MOON--IT'LL BE SAFE---

THERE HE GOES--LET'S FOLLOW!

JOEL CUTS THROUGH A PATH IN THE WOODS--

HE'S TURNING OFF--- SEEMS TO BE HEADED FOR SOME DEFINITE PLACE.

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE MOON IF THE ALMANAC IS CORRECT!

I'LL GO THRU THE BRUSHWOOD IT'S FASTER--

MINUTES LATER---

HE'S GONE, KID! FLAME ON! NOT A SECOND TO LOSE!

BUT JOEL'S ROUTE LEADS STRAIGHT AHEAD!

THE MOON! THE FULL MOON!

SHORT SECONDS AFTER, AS A GIRL STANDS WAITING---

I WISH HE'D HURRY--- OH, THAT MUST BE---

JOEL, IS THAT YOU?

OH!

THE SAME TIME...

THE HOWL!

IT'S STRUCK ALREADY!

FOLLOWING THE DIRECTION OF THE HOWL, THE DUO SPEEDILY MERGES AGAIN!

I DON'T SEE A THING!

WAIT! LOOK DOWN THERE!

JONES!

OHHH, MY DAUGHTER! SAVE HER! THE WOLF HAS HER!

THE MOON'S ECLIPSED! THERE STILL MAY BE TIME! JONES, WHAT'S THAT BUILDING?

THE OLD TOWER... USED TO HAVE A BEACON LIGHT IN IT BUT IT BROKE DOWN...

TORO, YOU SEARCH THROUGH IT! I'LL TRY THE THICKETS!

MINUTES LATER, THE PAIR MEETS AGAIN!

NOTHING IN THE TOWER!

LET'S TRY THE TAYLOR HOUSE!

JOEL, WAIT! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?

I-I HAD A DATE WITH PEGGY... DIDN'T GET THERE. THE MOON CAME OUT... THOUGHT I HEARD THE WOLF... I WAS RUNNING...

RUNNING... RUNNING... ALL I KNOW...

LET'S GO, TORO! HE WOULDN'T REMEMBER... IF PEGGY'S STILL ALIVE THE BEAST WILL WAIT TO FINISH ITS PREY! HUH...I THINK WE CAN BRING BACK THE MOON!

SOON AFTER, IN THE OLD TOWER...

THAT REWIRING REPAIRED THE LIGHT... I'M GOING BACK TO THE TAYLOR HOUSE... IN FIVE MINUTES, TORO...

YOU BET! I'LL BEAM THE FULL LIGHT ON THAT HOUSE!

SOON AFTER WE FIND TORCH...

I'VE GOT TO BE RIGHT ON THE SPOT WHEN IT HAPPENS... MMM, VOICES...

THEY SAY THE WOLF GOT PEGGY, FATHER... WHERE'VE YOU BEEN TONIGHT?

HERE, ALL EVENING DOZED OFF WHILE READING

BUT YOU! WHEN I AWOKE YOU WERE GONE! SON, I'M AFRAID I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU! SOMETHING TERRIBLE'S BEEN HAPPENING TO YOU! I'VE SEEN STRANGE TRACKS IN THE HOUSE.. YOU GO OUT NIGHTS... BEFORE THE FULL MOON

NO! DON'T SAY THAT!

NO! THAT'S NOT..! THE MOON! THE FULL MOON!

TORO'S RIGHT ON TIME! THIS IS IT!

SUDDENLY!

FLAMING FLAMINGOES!

THE MIGHTY FIRE BRAND WINGS OUT IN PURSUIT...

I'M IN THE CHASE, TORCH! FIXED THE AUTOMATIC SWITCH ON THE LIGHT!

IT WORKED. HE'S CHANGING!

THE WEREWOLF EMERGES, BOUNDING EVER FORWARD -- THEN MONSTER FANGS PAW AT FOLIAGE!

AT THE BOTTOM OF A PIT LIES THE WEREWOLF BUT IS UNCONSCIOUS!

ENOUGH FOR YOU PRETTY PET!

TORCH! THANK HEAVENS!

OHH! IT'S COME BACK --- TO KILL!

BUT THE WEREWOLF MUSTERS MONSTROUS STRENGTH TO LEAP AGAIN!

STEEL-STRONG MUSCLES MOVE SPEEDILY ... AND ...

GOOD GOING TORCH!

CRACK!

THE FIENDISH CREATURE FALLS BACK IN ITS DEATH THROES ....

THIS WILL END ITS AGONY!

JOEL!.. I THOUGHT YOU WERE...

HE TABBED THE WRONG ONE, TORO!

LOOK!

HE NEVER KNEW WHAT HE WAS--- I SUSPECTED, BUT I WASN'T SURE... I THINK HE BELIEVED I WAS THE WERE WOLF...JUST WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, PEGGY?

I FAINTED WHILE HE-IT DRAGGED ME HERE... AS I CAME TO, FANGS WERE ABOUT TO CLAW ME. THEN SUDDENLY HE-IT TOSSED ME DOWN AND LEAPED AWAY...I PASSED OUT AGAIN!

LUCKY FOR YOU, PEGGY, THE MOONLIGHT WAS SUBSIDING. A WERE WOLF FEELS THAT... WELL, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

LATER...

HE WASN'T MY REAL PARENT. MY PARENTS WERE KILLED IN AN AUTO ACCIDENT WHEN I WAS 12. HE ADOPTED ME... I-I'M AN HEIR!

SEE, FATHER!

WELL, UH... SON, SINCE YOU AND PEGGY LOVE EACH OTHER...

COME ON, TORO. THINGS'LL BE O.K. HERE!

HUMAN TORCH

OUT OF A MIND WARPED WITH HATE EVOLVES A MAD SCHEME FOR POWER AND MURDER—FLINGING ITSELF ON HELPLESS ONES AGAIN **TORCH** AND **TORO** SO INTO FLAMING ACTION-BRAVING STRANGE PERILS AGAINST AN EERIE FOE—A SCOURGE OF DARKNESS WHO CREATES

The **INVISIBLE TERROR!**

TWO MEN NEIGHBORS WAIT IN THE HALL OF A NEW YORK APARTMENT

NO USE YOUR WAITING FOR THE POSTMAN ARNOLD THE LETTER FROM CHEM CHEMLY IS SURELY FOR ME

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEAT ME OUTTA EVERY GOOD BREAK, PARKER BUT NOT THIS TIME OH POST MANS COMING

HA! THE JOBS MINE! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP ARNOLD OGLEY? YOU'RE JUST WASTING YOUR TIME AS A CHEMIST!

I'LL SHOW YOU! I'LL SHOW EVERYONE! SOON I'LL MAKE A STARTLING DISCOVERY!

SOON AFTER...

ARNOLD! GOING AWAY - TO MAKE THAT IMPORTANT DISCOVERY? HA HA!

LAUGH YOU FOOL! SOME DAY I'LL HAVE THE LAST LAUGH I'LL BE SEEING YA, GEORGE PARKER BUT MAYBE YOU WON'T SEE ME!

AT A HOUSE AROUND THE CORNER, OGLEY STOPS TO SAY GOODBYE

BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING, ARNOLD?

THAT'S MY SECRET, MATHE I MUST WORK COMPLETELY ALONE BUT SOMEDAY I'LL BE BACK- WITH POWER AND FAME, UNTIL THEN GOODBYE

LATER AT THE OTHER END OF THE CITY

I'D LIKE AN APARTMENT I'M JAMES SMITH, A CHEMIST, AND I'LL PAY A MONTHS RENT IN ADVANCE

YOU'RE IN LUCK, MR SMITH APT 28 HAS JUST BEEN VACATED I WILL SHOW IT TO YOU

IN A SHORT TIME...

THERE-- ALL SET IN MY NEW PLACE AND NOW FOR WORK-- THE SECRET OF INVISIBILITY, WHAT POWER IT WILL GIVE ME! HA!

TWO MONTHS PASS-- AND IN THE HOME OF THOSE FAMED CRIME-CRUSHERS, TORCH AND TORO--

THE WAY WE KEEP ADDING TO OUR CRIME FILES, TORCH, WE NEED A LARGER PLACE

YES WE DO, WE HAVE SOME TIME TO SPARE NOW LET'S GO APARTMENT-HUNTING

A TREK THROUGH THE CITY AND THE DUO INQUIRES AT---

EVERYTHINGS TAKEN BUT I'M GETTING THE TENANT IN 28 OUT HE'S IN ARREARS IN HIS RENT PECULIAR FELLOW--KEEPS TO HIMSELF HIS CAT'S STRANGE, TOO I HEARD IT MEWING IN THE HALL ONCE AND COULDN'T FIND IT

DON'T RUSH HIM OUT ON OUR ACCOUNT

NO, I'VE BEEN PLANNING TO. FACT IS, I'VE ALREADY GIVEN HIM NOTICE TO MOVE. HE'S GOT TO GO!

MEANWHILE--IN APT. 28...

NOW FOR THE GREAT EXPERIMENT. AN 85% SOLUTION OF AMOLYN-TRETUS WORKED ON THE CAT, MADE IT INVISIBLE UNTIL I KILLED IT. A FULL 50 GRAIN INJECTION SHOULD WORK ON ME. ONE SHOT IN MY WRIST

DONE! THE SERUM SURGES THRU THE CHEMIST'S VEINS-- WITH STARTLING EFFECT!

SMITH! THIS IS JOHNSON, THE SUPER I'VE GOT TO--

ONE MOMENT!

THE SERUM'S WORKING SWIFTLY. I'LL BE TOTALLY INVISIBLE IN A MOMENT. THEN FOR SOME SPORT! SO HE WANTS ME TO MOVE?

WHEN OGLEY OPENS THE DOOR

WHAT? OH!

DID SMITH THROW YOU OUT?

IT WAS NOBODY! THE DOOR WAS OPENED BY NOBODY AND I WAS KICKED BY AN INVISIBLE FOOT!

COME, NOW THAT CAN'T BE. WE'LL GO UP AND SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

MEANWHILE, THE INVISIBLE MAN MAKES A HASTY EXIT!

I FELT A STRONG BREEZE JUST WHIP BY ME

SO DID I--- MUST BE A DRAFT

AS THE TRIO CONTINUES UP, OGLEY SPIES A CAR PARKED OUTSIDE BY THE CURB, AND

HELP!

THAT CAR! WHO'S DRIVING IT?

HELP, GHOSTS! POLICE! A CAR JUST DROVE OFF BY ITSELF!

NO ONE HERE. SOMETHING'S HAPPENING ON THE STREET. FLAME ON LAD! WE'LL GO DOWN!

JUST A MINUTE! ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU SAW A CAR DRIVEN BY SOMETHING INVISIBLE? YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING FROM THE SAME BOTTLE!

HRUMPH! I DRINK! HOW DARE YOU! I KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING!

IT'S TRUE! A PHANTOM DROVE THAT CAR!

PHANTOMS! RUBBISH! TORCH, YOU DIDN'T SEE AN INVISIBLE PERSON DRIVING A CAR DID YOU NOW?

NO WE DIDN'T SEE THE CAR. MY GUESS IS THAT IT'S A RUMOR, PURE AND SIMPLE.

COME ON, TORO. WE HAVE A DATE AT CHROMO CHEM LAB TO WATCH A NEW BALLISTICS TEST.

CHECK! THE CHEMIST GEORGE PARKER DEVELOPED IT.

TORCH, I'M STILL NOT CONVINCED THAT THERE ISN'T SOMETHING TO THAT INVISIBLE BUSINESS. THE SUPER'S STRANGE EXPERIENCE—

IT IS PUZZLING... MMM, SHOTS! PARKER MUST'VE STARTED THE BALLISTICS TEST.

BUT WHEN THE DUO ENTERS THE LAB

IT SURE WAS NO TEST! HE'S SHOT TO DEATH.

THE GUN'S STILL SMOKING! THE KILLER COULDN'T HAVE GONE FAR!

NO ONE'S OUT HERE.

YET THAT SHRUBBERY NEAR THE PATH IS MOVING—AND THERE'S NO WIND! TORCH, COME ON!

UNFLAMING, THE POWER-HOUSE PAIR POUNCES!

IT IS SOMEONE! SOMEONE INVISIBLE!

HA-HA! YOU JUST THINK YOU HAVE ME!

A SPLIT SECOND LATER...

HA! LUCKY I PICKED UP THOSE GAS PELLETS IN PARKERS LAB THAT WILL HOLD THEM!

PERPLEXED, THE DUO RECOVERS AND RESUMES IT'S FLAMING SEARCH!

NO SIGN OF HIM! TORCH WE'RE UP AGAINST THE MOST DANGEROUS KIND OF ENEMY WE'VE EVER KNOWN—AN INVISIBLE KILLER!

YOU SAID IT, LADY! LET'S START BY DISCOVERING WHO HE IS THE NAME SMITH IS OBVIOUSLY FALSE. HE MUST HAVE HAD SOME REASON FOR KILLING PARKER

MEANWHILE THE UNSEEN DOLEY PLANS HIS NEXT MOVE

I TOOK MY REVENGE ON PARKER NOW I'LL USE MY POWER TO STAR TLE THE PUBLIC. HA- I'M GOING TO ENJOY PLAYING PRANKS -- HA-HA-HA!

SOON A WHIRLWIND DISPLAY OF AMAZING ANTICS

AM I CRAZY? THAT PEES FLYING!

OH!

SOMEONE LEFT ME A DAINTY MOP-SEL ON THAT SILL-HA-HA!

ON A BUSY STREET INTERSECTION

BUT OFFICER SOMETHING HIT ME!

I GOT TRAFFIC TO HANDLE! WHERE'S MY TRAFFIC WHISTLE?

WHAT

I'LL NEVER TOUCH ANOTHER

ON

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ELECT ME AS MAYOR A MAN WHO STANDS SOLIDLY ON HIS—

THE PREES AND RADIO SHRIEK OF THE TERROR

I BET TORCH AND TORO LAND THAT GUY!

WON'T BE LAST SO!

MEANWHILE THE TORRID TEAM SEES PARKER'S COLLEAGUES

A CHEMIST, ARNOLD OGLEY WANTED PARKER'S JOB HE WON'T AWAY VOWING HE'D SHOW HIM

DID HE CONFESS IN ANY ONE?

NO BUT HE DO HAVE A GIRL WHO LIVED IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD

INQUIRIES LEAD TO THE HOME OF KATHE WATERS

ARNOLD SAID HE'D WIN FAME AND POWER AND BRING ME A JEWEL TO WATCH BUT SINCE THEN I'VE HEARD NOTHING FROM HIM.

YOU'VE GIVEN US VALUABLE IDEAS. COME ON TORO

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING-THAT OGLEY IS THE INVISIBLE KILLER

RIGHT HIS BID FOR FAME WAS DISCOVERING HOW TO MAKE HIMSELF INVISIBLE IF HE PROMISED TO BRING HER A DAZZLING JEWEL HE WILL WE'VE GOT TO KNOW ABOUT THE JEWELRY WORLD

EACH DAY THE DUO SCANS THE JEWELRY TRADE PAPER

TORO HERE'S SOMETHING! A DEALER, LUCIUS WHITE, JUST BOUGHT THE QUEEN BLUE SAPPHIRE! BLUE AND GOLD MATCH KATHIES HAIR AND EYES THAT'S OUR LEAD!

OGLEYS PROBABLY READ ABOUT IT, TOO. WED BETTER GO TO WHITE'S!

AS TORCH AND TORO WALK AWAY...

HUH! THAT'S STRANGE ONE OF THOSE COPIES WAS JUST STOLEN

HA-HA! I WAS ABOUT TO GO THERE BUT IF THESE TWO ARE INTERFERING I'LL HAVE TO PUT THEM OUT OF THE WAY THE DEATHS OF TORCH AND TORO WILL CREATE THE MOST SENSATIONAL NEWS OF ALL YES, I'LL DO IT!

BACK IN HIS HIDE-OUT THE MURDEROUS DUANE

NO ONE KNOWS I'VE TAKEN OVER THIS VACANT HOUSE BUT THEY WILL-SOON!

LATER THAT DAY AT A BUTCHER STORE

MY CHICKENS! COME BACK!

THEN AT THE LOCAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS

THAT MANIAC CARRIED A LAMP OUT OF MY STORE!

AND HE TOOK 2 PLANTS FROM MY SHOP!

STOP! STOP! I'VE HAD OTHER COMPLAINTS TORCH AND TORO ARE SCOURING THIS DISTRICT

I'VE BEEN OVER MOST OF THE DISTRICT TORCH! THAT WINDOW!

OH-OH IT SEEMS TO BE RISING BY ITSELF

CHOOSING A YEAR DOOR THE DUO ENTERS WITH CARE - THEN

THAT'S OUR INVISIBLE FRIEND! THE POSITION OF THE CIGARETTE SHOWS THAT HIS BACK IS TO US. FLAME ON, LADY!

BUT AS THE BOYS START TO FLAME ABOUT THE UNSEEN KILLER, THEY STRIKE ANOTHER INVISIBLE FORCE!

MY FLAMES GOING OFF!

WE'RE BEING SHORT-CIRCUITED!

BY AN INVISIBLE ELECTRICALLY WIRED NET I SET UP FOR YOU TWO! NOW YOUR FLAME POWERS ARE HALTED - AND

GOOD! THEY'VE RECEIVED ENOUGH OF A SHOCK TO KNOCK 'EM OUT BUT NOT KILL 'EM! I HAVE A VERY SPECIAL WAY FOR THEM TO DIE! HA-HA-HA!

MOMENTS AFTER TORCH AND TORO REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS TO FACE A HIDEOUS DEATH!

WHEN I TURN ON THIS WHEEL THE CABLE WILL START REELING IN AS THE LINE SHORTENS THE NOOSE WILL TIGHTEN - AND YOU DIE!

FIEND! HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP ON?

AS LONG AS I WISH-- THE WHEELS ON! ENJOY YOURSELVES IN THIS AIR-LESS ROOM-- WHILE I GO ON MY MERRY WAY-WITH NO INTERFERENCE! FAREWELL!

THE WHEEL OF DEATH BEGINS TO TURN, LIFTING THE HELPLESS DUO CLOSER TO ITS DOOM!

I FEEL THE NOOSE TIGHTEN-ING. GOSH, WHAT A WAY TO DIE.

HMM. WE CAN'T FLAME. CAN'T BREAK THESE WIRES.

I COULD TRY KICKING THE WHEEL WHEN WE'RE HIGHER. BUT IF IT ROLLS THE WRONG WAY, WE'RE DONE FOR! TORO, GRAB ONE OF THOSE SMALL TIN LIDS! DO AS I DO!

THE CRIME-CRUSHER STRAINS TOWARD HIS OBJECTIVE

O.K. I'LL DO THE SAME BUT WHAT GOOD?

THE NEXT MOMENT TORCH DEFTLY PROVES HIS POINT!

PLACING THE DISK UNDER THE NOOSE WILL PREVENT ITS DRAWING IN TOO TIGHTLY. HURRY! THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT!

THEN TORCH MAKES A DESPERATE MOVE!

HOPE FOR A BREAK, LAD!

WHAT A BREAK! THE CABLES PAYING OUT AND OUR BONDS ARE LOOSENING! WE'LL BE FREE! NOW TO SMASH THE WINDOWS! OGLEY LOCKED US IN.

CRASH!

SOON THE SMASH OF GLASS... AND COOL AIR COMES IN REKINDLING THE DUCK'S FLAME POWERS

OGLEY'S NEXT STOP WILL BE FOR THE SAPPHIRE! HE MAY BE IN TIME TO GET HIM YET!

BUT THE DOOR OPENED AND THE NEXT MINUTE I WAS KNOCKED OUT AND THE QUEEN BLUE SAPPHIRE WAS STOLEN!

BY THE INVISIBLE KILLER! HE WILL TAKE IT TO KATHIE LET'S GO TORO AS SOON AS I MAKE A BRIEF STOP-OFF!

STOP-OFF? WHERE?

THERE! DIDN'T TAKE LONG - WE'RE JUST 2 DOORS FROM KATHIES NOW

I DIDN'T SEE ANY DOORS OPENING OR CLOSING THERE GOSH I HOPE WE NAB HIM THIS TIME!

BREATHLESS BECOMES LATER

YES, MY DEAR, I'VE COME BACK WITH A DAZZLING JEWEL FOR YOU BUT FIRST, YOU TOO MUST BECOME INVISIBLE ONE JAB WITH THIS NEEDLE

NO! YOU'RE MAD!

HELP!

A SMASHING MOVE...

CAMES UP OGLEY! FOR KEEPS THIS TIME!

BUT INVISIBLE HANDS TAKE CUNNING SWIFT ACTION!

SO YOU ESCAPED MY TRAP! BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!

THE STUNNED PAIR RECOVERS FAST!

HE WON'T GET FAR THIS TIME! KATHIE, NOTIFY THE POLICE! WHEN THEY COME I CAN GUARANTEE A GOOD CATCH!

FLAMING OUT INTO THE DUSK THE TORRID TEAM SEES

THAT MOVING GLOW IS ON OGLEY'S BACK! I STOPPED OFF FOR A BIT OF PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT AND DABBED 'IM WITH IT!

OH

YES, OGLEY! YOU'RE TRAPPED! YOUR INVISBILITY IS NO LONGER A MYSTERY! YOU CAN NEVER ESCAPE!

SUDDENLY.

HES GOT A GUN!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME!

THE INSTANT FLASH OF A BULLET AND

WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOU GET HIM?

YES! BUT HE SHOT HIMSELF!

A GRIM GROUP WATCHES TENSELY AS

HES DYING FLAMING FLAMINGLY! DEATH IS BRINGING HIS VISIBILITY BACK!

WHAT A SIGHT! I SURE GOT HERE FOR THE KILL GOOD WORK BOYS

DEAD!

I'LL NOTIFY THE MORGUE TO PICK UP THE BODY AND I'LL TELL THE PUBLIC THE TERRORS OVER

THAT GLOW YOU PAINTED ON HIM TORCH WAS SURE A MASTER STROKE!

THE END!

EDGE OF THE WORLD

TOM MALLORY was thinking about the adventurous incidents of the past five years. There was scarcely a spot on this earth that he had not visited . . . his own eyes had impressed hundreds of amazing sights into his memory, and his cameras had preserved these sights for him to see again whenever he wished to. They were here in this private study, in several fascinating albums.

But the point had now been reached when he no longer regained that old thrill when he glanced at these old photographs. So he knew that there was only one thing he could do about it . . . he must travel again. He must find some spot where his restless feet had not trod the foreign soil; a spot where new sights could thrill this wanderer. Tom left the comfortable leather chair and walked over to the large globe near the window. He studied it for a few moments; then his index finger reached out and pressed against the globe's surface. He spun it, and barely breathed as he waited for the globe to cease its soundless motion.

It stopped. Tom gazed at the shaded areas which indicated rugged mountain ranges. He was looking at the Asiatic continent, and as his eyes narrowed down to one point, he found himself staring at one word: TIBET!

Of course! Why hadn't he thought of it before? There was one spot he had never journeyed to . . . the land of Buddhism and the Dalai Lama, the remote regions of Tibet where few foreigners had set foot. To Mallory, it would be like traveling to the edge of the world, and to stand on the crest of Mount Everest in the famous Himalayas would be like standing on top of the world. Already Tom could anticipate the feeling of exhilaration of a human being setting his feet on the mountain which the Tibetans called Chomolungma, for was it not the highest known mountain in the world?

. . . Days of careful preparation followed, during which Tom packed a minimum of clothing and equipment; he always traveled as lightly as possible, and had reduced the list of necessities to the bare essentials. At last he was ready.

As the mighty transport winged its way from New York, he wondered how long it would be before he returned to this land of giant man-made structures. Now he was headed for a land of nature-made gigantic formations, where exciting adventures were of a different sort. Here in the City, a man pitted his strength and ingenuity against the perils of modern civilization . . . but over there in the wild land of Tibet, a man would require the extreme limit in endurance and intelligence. Well, adventurer Tom Mallory had those attributes! He had proven it many times during his former travels.

Less than a week later, young Mallory found himself on an American-built air field in China. This would be his last step by plane. The rest of the journey would have to be by pack-mule.

Making several inquiries, Tom was able to hire the mules and a few Chinese who agreed to go part of the way with him further into the interior. So at last preparations were completed, and he set out.

It was a long and lonely journey as the small group made its way into the little-traveled country of the Tibetans. Tom felt wonderful, as he always did when making an excursion into strange new lands. But yet, he found himself possessed of a feeling which was new to him; there was something in the air of this region which suggested adventure, fantasy, the unusual . . . and that was exactly what Mallory was seeking . . . the bizarre.

. . . At last he had reached his destination. The mighty snow-covered peaks of the Himalayas stretched in every direction, an awe-inspiring sight. Indeed, if Tom ever reached the top of the highest summit, he would have achieved his highest ambition. Whatever happened to him after that would be anti-climax.

And then he noticed the great structure of stone, set there on the side of the mountain. His guide explained:

"It is the palace of the Dalai Lama!"

Now here was something Tom had not expected. Few foreigners had stood face to face with the ruler of the Tibetans! Could he hope to be granted this rare experience?

As he approached the huge portal of the palace, he noticed it open slowly. Someone stepped out. So his arrival had been noticed already! He came close to this tall figure, and stopped. It was a Tibetan monk. The latter raised his hand in friendly greeting and spoke perfect English:

"I welcome you in the name of the Dalai Lama. He offers you the hospitality of his palace."

Tom must have looked surprised, for the monk smiled and said: "Oh yes, we speak English here. You see, many hours of study are devoted to language. All of us here speak your language! Enter, please. It has been a long while since we entertained an American."

. . . Within the hour, Tom was seated beside a ten year old boy . . . This was the spiritual ruler of the Tibetans. When the old Dalai Lama had died, the monks sought and found an infant who was born on the very same day that the old ruler died. So this child was taken to the Tibetan palace and raised to assume the leadership of these people.

The conversation was slow, for the boy had not acquired the skill of his elders in the English language. But the young ruler did understand Mallory when the latter expressed his desire to mount to the highest pinnacle in this region of the Himalayas. A few words were spoken in a strange tongue, and thus did Tom find himself on a pack-mule a few minutes later, ready to ascend the mountain. Beside him rode the boy on a white mule. Two monks were to accompany them.

Slowly the group made the ascent, conversing all the while. Tom told the young boy fascinating facts about America, and the lad took in every detail eagerly. Tom found himself liking this sincere child.

Then it happened! From out of the shadows of a twisting path, two burly figures came forth, riding spirited Arabian horses. One of them raised his right hand, and the small group stopped. A few words were barked by this strange character. The boy Dalai Lama translated: "They are bandits! It seems *I* am the prize of these kidnapers!"

The Dalai Lama to be kidnaped! Not if an American named Tom Mallory had his way about it! The bandits were not armed . . . they had not expected any opposition from a ten year old boy and two old monks. But also, they had not expected that this group would be accompanied by an adventurous American!

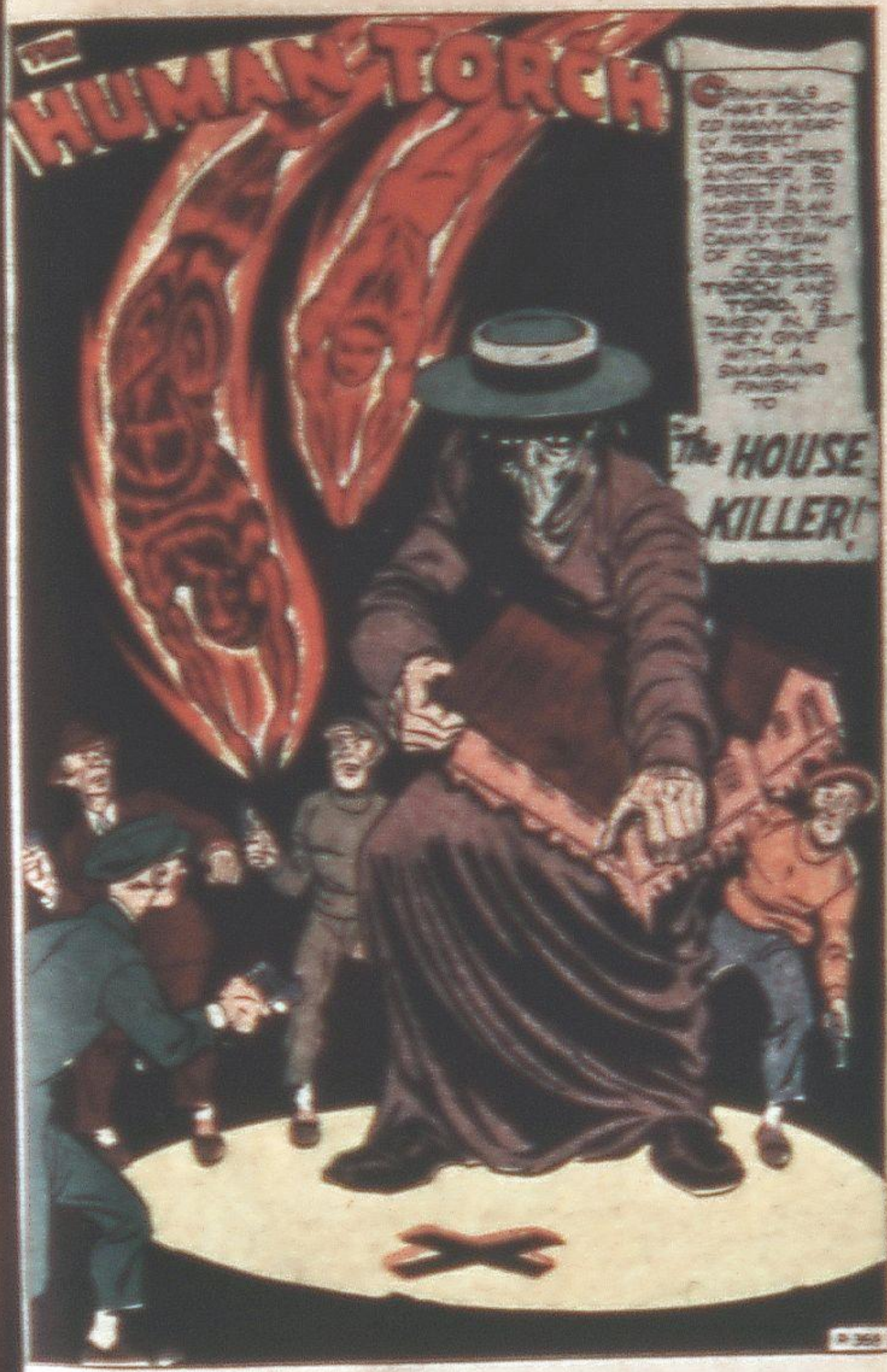
Then things happened fast! Leaping from his mule, Tom grabbed the left leg of one of the bandits and pulled him to the ground. The element of surprise was in his favor, and a few swift wallops without opposition soon transformed the bandit into a state of complete oblivion!

That left one angry figure to contend with. The other bandit lifted his whip and slashed at Tom, who cowered beneath the savage blows. But then, with one swift stroke, Tom grabbed the whip and pulled it from the hand of his adversary. He tossed it aside. The bandit leaped from his horse atop Mallory, and they both rolled over on the ground, locked in each other's vise-like grips. This is where Tom's knowledge of wrestling came in handy. With a few twists and turns, he managed to evade the clutches of his foe; a terrific swing of his right fist which landed on the bandit's jaw ended the struggle. The latter lay limp beside his unfortunate companion.

. . . Days later, Tom took leave of his Tibetan friends. It had been a highly satisfying visit; Tom had stood on the highest reachable point in the mountains with a new friend. The mystic atmosphere of Tibet had intrigued him and he promised the young Dalai Lama he would try to return some day.

But Tom wondered if he really would travel anymore. After all, when a man had been to the edge of the world, he could go no further!

THE END SL 876


HUMAN TORCH
CRIMINALS HAVE PROVED ED MANY NEAR PERFECT CRIMES. HERE'S ANOTHER, SO PERFECT IN ITS MASTER PLAN THAT EVEN THE CRIME-DETECTING TORCH AND FOOD, IS PUZZLED! THEY GIVE WITH A BLAZING FINISH TO
the HOUSE KILLER!

TORCH AND TORO ARE STROLLING IN A DARK SPOT OF LEISURE...

NICE NIGHT NICE AND DARK...

SORRY NO VACANCIES!

AW, THIS IS TERRIBLE!

TOO BAD I'VE TURNED AWAY HUNDREDS OF THEM TODAY I HATE TO DO IT, IN THINK OF FINDING UP IN AN OLD SCORCHED-UP HOUSE OF LIKE DOWN BY THE RIVER!

THAT WOULD BE DOING A REAL SERVICE

I THINK I'LL DRIVE BY THE OLD HOUSE AGAIN AND TAKE A LOOK AT IT FOR QUITE A WHILE! THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIND OF SEEDY AND DESERTED BUT ANY THING WILL DO RIGHT THESE DAYS!

TORCH AND TORO RESUME THEIR STROLL AGAIN

A BLAST! FLAME ON, LAD! HERE'S OUR WAY!

WHAT A BLAZE!

LUCKY THERE ARE NO BUILDINGS ON EITHER SIDE OF THEY'D CATCH LIKE A TINDER BOX!

AS THE RAMED THE SPEEDILY FIGHT FIRE WITH THEIR FIRE...

HA HA, THIS NOTE WILL FIX EVERYTHING! NO ONE WILL CATCH ON!

SHORTLY AFTER...

FIRE'S OUT!

WITH YOU BOYS AROUND WE CAN GO OUT OF BUSINESS!

I NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE THIS! PLENTY OF FIRE AND SMOKE BUT NOT MUCH DEEPS!

WELL THERE WAS A HOUSE HERE, WE SAW THE WALLS CAVE IN!

MY HOUSE!

WHAT HAPPENED? THIS WAS MY BOARDED-UP HOUSE! HOW DID THE FIRE START?

WE DON'T KNOW WHOEVER SET THE BLAST SET A SOCKEROO PROB ABLY A NITROGLINE CHLORIDE BOMB TO MAKE THE DEBRIS DISINTE- GRATE SO!

THAT'S JUST HOW I FIGURE IT BUT WHO'D WANT TO BLOW UP THE OLD HOUSE? WHY?

HERE'S SOME- THING... A NOTE...

MESSAGE.. BESPEAKING RACE..

MUST BE ONE OF THOSE FUR HUNT- ERS I TURNED DOWN! I'LL NOT- IFY THE POLICE! MY NAME'S JOHN ERIK. IF YOU GET ANY NEWS!

WE HOPE TO! THAT HOUSE KILLER'S TOO DANGEROUS TO RUN LOOSE! MIGHT KILL SOMEONE TO BOOT!

NEXT NIGHT...

TORCH, WHERE ARE WE HEADED AND WHY THAT ASBESTOS BAG?

JUST IN CASE... WE DON'T GET A LEAD ON THAT HOUSE KILLER! BUT I'VE GOT A FEELING HE MIGHT STRIKE AGAIN! IT'S A DARK NIGHT AND A-FROWL-ING WE WILL GO!

MIDNIGHT...

HA, HA EVERYTHING'S SET AND NOW FOR THE BLOW-UP!

THE NEXT MOMENT...

OH!

THIS TIME WE'RE ON THE MATCH FOR YOU! IT'S YOUR...

MY SUCCESS! HA! HA!

UNFLAME, TORCH! HIS BOMB'LL EXPLODE US! OH, WHAT'S THAT?

IT'S A NITRO-CHLORIDE RE-AGENT! I BROUGHT IT FOR EMERGENCY! I STOPPED THAT EXPLOSION BEFORE IT GOT STARTED!

SWELL WORK, TORCH, BUT GOSH, THAT HOUSE KILLER'S GOT AWAY!

...WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO BLAST THE YOU... LOOK, TORCH!

SEEMS STRANGE, BUT IT'S NO HOUSE AT ALL! JUST FOUR FAKE WALLS AND A PILE OF WOOD!

WHY THE RAKE BET-JA? AND WHY WOULD THE HOUSE KILLER WANT TO DESTROY IT? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HOUSE?

THAT'S WHAT WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT FAST!

CITY HALL!

YEE, WE'RE GONNA TO LOOK UP THE RECORD ON THE OLD KIRK HOUSE IT PROBABLY HAD BURNED TOO... BEFORE THE BLAST THE EXPLOSION MUST'VE SERVED TO COVER UP ITS DISAPPEARANCE

AT THE SAME TIME...

HERE'S THE RECORDS, BOSS! MY CLERK'S GONE HERE DURING THE DAYS SURE CAME IN HANDY!

YEH... LET'S GET GOING, TORCH AND TOMB MIGHT BE SUSPICIOUS BY NOW

WITH THESE RECORDS GONE THEY'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT?

IT'S THEM HOT SHOTS

GUNS WON'T HELP YOU BOYS NOW!

WE'LL SEE WHETHER WILL THIS PRESENT I GOT YOU, WISE GUY!

THIS FIRE HOSE WILL STOP THEM!

YOUR STANDING BY WAS A SMART THING, LARSEN!

THEY'LL HOLD THEM BETTER YET! O.K.! LET'S SCRAM!

YEH, THOSE RECORDS GOT BURNED UP BY THOSE HOT SHOTS FLAMES!

MOMENTS LATER... THE FLAMED FIGHTERS COME TO...

WE SURE LOST THAT YOUNG TORCH!

NOT QUITE! NOT ALL OF THOSE RECORDS BURNED! HERE'S SOMETHING THAT ESCAPED THE FIRE! SOMETHING IMPORTANT!

THE LETTER BEFORE 'OLD PLATED' IS BURNED OUT! IT MUST MEAN 'GOLD PLATED'— AND THAT MEANS THE ANSWER TO THIS PUZZLE! FLAME UP, LAD, WE'RE ON THE MOVE!

OLD PLATED FROM A GEM AMSTO... WAS A SMALL FACTORY FROM 1900 TO 1920

THE RECORDS MUST MEAN THAT THOSE OLD HOUSES HAD ONCE BEEN FACTORIES! AND IN FACTORIES MAKING GOLD PLATED ARTICLES, GOLD DUST WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCUMULATED IN THE WALLS AND FLOORING! GOLD DUST MUST BE WHY THE GANG WANTED THOSE HOUSES! THEY'VE GOT TO BAKE THE GOLD DUST OUT AND WE MUST FIND THEIR OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS!

ALL DONE? THE SOONER WE GET OUT OF HERE...

THE LAST OF IT'S NEARLY BAKED... WE GET AT LEAST 25 GOO BUCKS WORTH OF GOLD DUST FROM EACH HOUSE!

AND, AS THE CRIME CROWD IS COMPLETING ITS EARNING CHORES...

TORCH, THAT BUILDING, SKIT - THE ABANDONED SPOT'S BETWEEN 9

RIGHT, LAD AND IT DOESN'T LOOK SO EMPTY NOW WITH SMOKE COMING OUT OF THE STACK. WE'RE GOING IN!

O.K. WE GOT IT ALL! WE'LL TAKE THE LOAD ABOARD THE BARGE AND...

RUN! SCREAM!

YOU'RE GOING TO TRADE YOUR BAKERY FOR WORK ON THE ROCK PILE!

SOME SCHEME! I'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW THEY WORKED IT ALL!

AT HEADQUARTERS... THE FULL STORY...

...AND WE MOVED THE HOUSES ON A BARGE ON THE RIVER TO THE OLD BAKERY. WE SET UP THE MONEY MILLS AND BLEW THEM UP WITH NITRO BOMBS SO NO ONE WOULD GET WISE TO OUR REAL GAME!

LIKE IT TO TORCH AND TODO TO GET WISE!

THE HOUSE KILLER PUBLICITY DO SOME GOOD IT BUT SOME MORE PRESSURE ON THE NEED TO SOLVE THE HOUSING SHORTAGE AND THERE'S REAL ACTION NOW!

GOOD! THE HOUSING SHORTAGE MUST BE ENDED!

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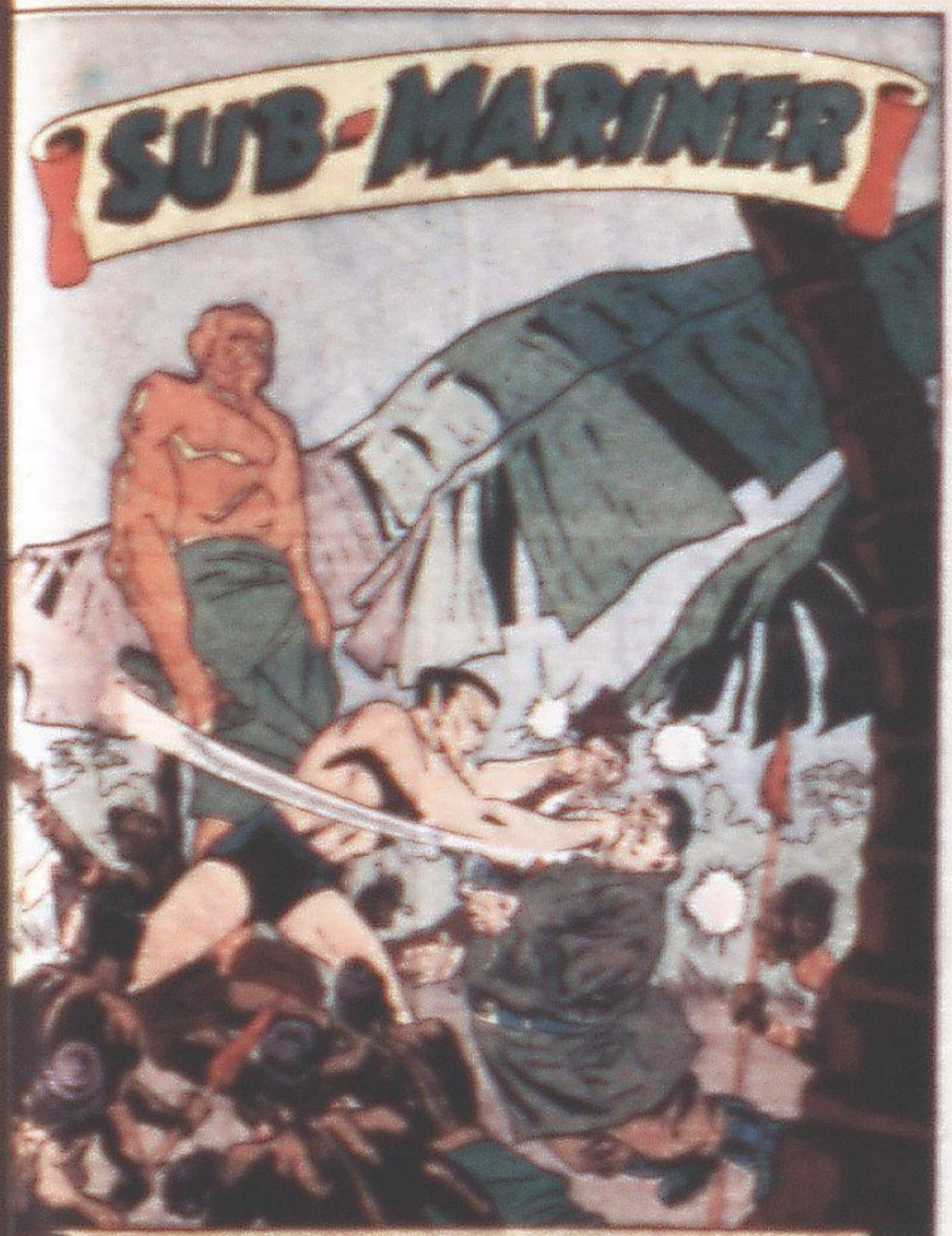


THE STATUE OF DEATH!

At an art dealer's in a Florida seaside town—

This statue for sale came from the Isle of Tabeda! It's bronze and jade—made by the famed sculptor Idlu! Besides, an interesting legend is attached to it—

The person this statue portrays is someone who actually lived! A native named Jarue who was arrested for murder and executed ten years ago! The night he died, there was a violent storm—and it is said—

Among the on-lookers—Submariner and Betty—

—that if the statue is in a storm setting on the anniversary night of the execution, June 28, the statue will come to life and kill!

Ha-ha! That's publicity to "up" the sale!

Some story! Well, it's June 28, and looks stormy out!

Anyway, that's the story! And now my assistant will take $25!

Mr. Driscoll, I'll pay $25.00 for the statue—in the spirit you can see me laugh forever disturb me!

The first and highest bidder—

My name's Gerard Kronin! Here is my check! You must deliver the statue to my home, 23 Harbor Point!

20 minutes later—

That's that, Betty! I think I've put in enough time on shore!

Just you leave! Now it's such fun—your coming down here duping my yacht on!

SECONDS—

"...CAN SEND MY SUIT BACK TO NEW YORK—AND IF ANY STATUES WALK LET ME KNOW! LOOKS LIKE A SOLT-FASTENER COMING UP!

Later SUBMARINER HELPS A DISTRESSED SLOOP—

THANKS, SUBMARINER! WE'RE SAFE NOW! THIS IS HARBOR POINT—A GOOD HAVEN!

HARBOR POINT—I HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE—TODAY—OH YES, THE ADDRESS OF—

The CROWN HOME—

I THOUGHT I TOLD THE MOVERS TO PUT THIS STATUE IN THE OTHER ROOM! OH WELL, THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR NOW—I MUST GET BUSY WITH WHAT A STORM!

OH! SEEMED LIKE THE ARM MOVED! I MUST BE IMAGINING THAT FOUL LEGEND! BUT NO—

While

I MIGHT AS WELL STAY AROUND AND WATCH FOR MORE—OH OH—THROUGH THAT WINDOW! THAT'S THE CROWN PLACE!

CRASH!

I CAN EXECUTE A FANCY FIST MYSELF!

CRASH!

AND I LAUGHED AT THE LEGEND OF LAUGHET! IS IT A PUZZLE I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT FIRST NOW!

But A MOMENT LATER THE CHANDELIER FELL TO THE VIOLENT KNOT!

CRASH!

BANG!

FORTY AFTER THE BLACK DEVIL

TUMBLING TOWARDS THE STAIRS STOPPED AND SO HAS THE STATE! IT WAS LIKE A NIGHTMARE!

I'LL BET ALL EIGHT HOOKS DEADLY THIS IS CERTAINLY NOTHING BUT A DEAD SETTLE NOW! BUT THERE'S BLOOD ON THE KNIFE! HUH, WONDER WHO ELSE IS IN THE HOUSE?

I WAS IN MY ROOM! THIS IS MOST HORRIBLE! MR. COOMB WAS SUCH A FINE MAN!

YOU THE ONLY ONES HERE? NO FAMILY?

NO SIR! MR. COOMB WAS A BACHELOR!

DEAR ME! WHAT SHALL WE DO?

I NOTIFIED THE POLICE! THEY'LL TAKE CHARGE HERE — OH, HERE THEY...

Lidon

WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME ABOUT GROWN SHOOS MET I DON'T BELIEVE THE STORY!

WHERE DID YOU BUY THE STATUE, TARSCOLL?

IT WAS SHIPPED TO ME HERE BY A REALTY MAN TIBU DURANT FROM THE ISLAND OF TAREDA! HE KNEW I WAS AN ART DEALER! WE COMMUNICATED AND ARRANGED TERMS! HOW HE CAME TO OWN THE STATUE, I DON'T KNOW!

WELL, THANK YOU — GOOD NIGHT!

POLICE HAVE NO CLUES... BEST BET RIGHT NOW IS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THAT STATUE! THIS CALLS FOR A VISIT TO THE ISLAND! WHAM, TAREDA'S IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC!

FOR THE ATOMIC SHIFT SEA PRINCE, JUST A SHORTY SNUB!

HOW TO LOCATE TIBU DURANT?

MEESTER OLPHANT? IS THERE!

YOU COME SUCH A DISTANCE TO ASK ABOUT THE STATUE? IT FIRST BELONGED TO MY COUSIN HECTOR OLPHANT! BUT ALAS, HECTOR WAS BANISHED FROM THE ISLAND TWO YEARS AGO!

BANISHED?

OUR RULER PERAZIKU EXILED HIM! HE WAS WEALTHY, BUT COULD ONLY TAKE HIS LIGHTEST POSSESSIONS! HE GAVE ME THE STATUE! I WAS GLAD TO SELL IT! I THINK IT HIDEOUS LOOKING—

—AND THE LEGEND ATTACHED TO IT WAS SO UNPLEASANT! (YAWN) FORTUNATELY, IT NEVER STORMED HERE TO PROVE IT! IT'S QUITE LATE NOW (YAWN) IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!

I'LL BE ON MY WAY!

WELL, I DIDN'T LEARN ANYTHING OF IMPORTANCE! BUT THAT OLPHANT LOOKS LIKE AN OILY BIRD... WONDER IF... OH... OH... WHO'S THAT?

SSST!

I AM SERVANT HERE! YOU LOOK LIKE GOOD FRIEND! I WILL TELL YOU MORE ABOUT STATUE, MORE THAN MY MASTER SAID! HECTOR OLPHANT! WAS DRIVEN AWAY BECAUSE HE WAS GOOD! WANTED FREE LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLE! RULER PERAZIKU DOES NOT!

A DICTATOR EH? GO ON!

"YESTERDAY, HECTOR CAME BACK BUT HE WAS SEEN, AND...

SO! THE TRAITOR HAS RETURNED! OUR ORDERS ARE TO SHOOT ON SIGHT!

BANG! BANG!

"HE WAS STILL ALIVE"

I CAME BACK TO HELP OUR PEOPLE SECRETLY (GASP) GIVE THEM RICHES... I HID GREAT TREASURE IN STATUE OF LADUSE!

HE'S DEAD— LIKE A DOG! HA!

I HEARD SHOTS! OH! THE POOR MAN!

HE SAID SOMETHING ELSE—A STRANGE WORD I CANNOT REMEMBER. THEN HE DIED—OH, I MUST GO NOW—A GUARD CALLS— IF I AM FOUND HERE—

SHARM!—SHARM! APPEAR AT ONCE!

SOOO... A TREASURE'S CONCEALED IN THAT STATUE—WONDER IF KRONN COULD HAVE IN SOME WAY FOUND THAT OUT! THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY HE BOUGHT THE STATUE SO QUICKLY!

Meanwhile, DHARMA IS SUMMONED TO—

A GUARD OBSERVED YOU JUST NOW! I WARNED YOU— IF YOU TALKED OF THE TREASURE IN THE STATUE!

I DON'T TELL ALL! I DIDN'T TELL HIM YOU KNOW, TOO!

BECAUSE YOU WERE SUMMONED AFTER THE GUARD PUT HER IN CHAINS! PERHAPS THEY SHE'LL REMEMBER THE STRANGE HORN! PERHAPS THE SECRET TO OPENING THE STATUE

1a BLOCK MOMENTS BY THE SHORT-WAVE—

—AND I'M LEAVING BY PLANE IN TEN MINUTES! BET THE STATUE THIS TIME!

THE BRIDGE WASHED OUT—AT NEW DELHI? DRIVE THROUGH? IT'S REPAIRED NOW? AS SOON AS POSSIBLE—

45 MINUTES LATER—

AT LAST, POLICE AND SERVANTS HAVE LEFT—ONE CLEAR—

LOOKS LIKE I GOT BACK JUST IN TIME!

1n VOLCANIC TIME—NAMOR UNLEASHES MIGHTY FISTS—

THIS TIME I'M GOING TO RIP YOU APART!

SMACK!

—AND SEE WHAT MAKES YOU TICK!

OH, OH— I SEE!

ANOTHER ONE-STABBING JACK THE RIPPER!

UGH!

BY THE WAY-HAVE YOU SEEN THE SPHINX LATELY?

NOW-TO FIND OUT WHO YOU REALLY ARE! I CAN BET YOU'RE NO MALICE-TRICE STATUE!

NEXT MOMENT...

HE WAS MOVING THE STATUE OUT, JUST IN TIME!

CRASH!

SOME TIME AFTER, MAHOR COMES TO, TO FIND...

DARSCOLL! YOU WERE THE STATUE THAT CAME ALIVE!

YES! JUST AFTER-I SOLD THE STATUE I HEARD FROM DUPHANT ABOUT A RICH TREASURE HIDDEN INSIDE! WE MADE A DEAL TO SHARE-BUT I HAD TO GET THE STATUE FROM KRONIN!

YOU USED THE OLD LEGEND OF THE STATUE COMING ALIVE TO STOP ANY INTERFERENCE!

EXACTLY! I HAD TO KILL KRONIN! I REALIZED HE'D FOUND OUT ABOUT THE TREASURE, TOO!

I FIGURED AS MUCH!

YOU FIGURED OUT TOO MUCH! YES, HECTOR IN HIS WAY BACK HAD STOPPED HERE! KRONIN MET HIM AND MUST'VE GOT WIND OF...

BOSS WE AIN'T FOUND AN OPENING IN THE STATUE YET!

NOT YET! I'LL TRY AGAIN, TOO—

WHY NOT JUST SMASH THE STATUE? USE AXES— OR, MELT IT DOWN!

WHAT! AND RISK RUINING SOMETHING PRICELESS INSIDE?

WELL, OLIPHANT HIMSELF! QUITE A REUNION! BY THE WAY, WHERE ARE WE?

UNDERNEATH MY NET ESTABLISHMENT!

TARSCOLL— I'VE BROUGHT SOMEONE... GUARD, GET HER IN HERE!

SHAZAM!

SHE CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE AS WELL AS HERS BY REMEMBERING ONE WORD! HECTOR'S LAST WORD! TARSCOLL, LET'S LEAVE THEM FOR FIVE MINUTES! IF SHE HASN'T THE ANSWER THEN, THEY BOTH DIE!

The TRAPPED PAIR— ALONE—

IT IS HOPELESS! THE WORD WENT FROM ME IN FRIGHT! IT WAS WHEN THE MASTER FORCED ME TO ADMIT THAT THE DYING HECTOR SPOKE TO ME — HIS GUARDS HAD SEEN FROM A DISTANCE... NOW, YOU, GOOD FRIEND, DIE, TOO—

IF THERE WERE SOME—

I'VE AN IDEA—THIS MAY WORK! WHEN THEY COME BACK TO, HEH—IF YOU RELEASED ME HOW'S THAT—

5 MINUTES LATER—AS THE MEN OF DEEP BEAR—

I DON'T KNOW BUT WE SHOT SOMETHING OUT OF THE WATER—

SHE'S WAKED! BRING HER SOME WATER QUICK!

As THE LOVELY BRUNET ENDED HER REVENGE—

HEY!

The BOX OF CLAY AND WATER HAD HAD EFFECT IN MINUTES!

MY LIFE! MY STRENGTH'S BACK!

IT WAS ALL A TRICK I'LL TELL THEM!

But A FLASHING FRACTION MOMENT LATER!

FROM HERE ON I'M TAKING OVER! AND YOU'RE JUST TAKING!

YOU ARE WONDERFUL!

"HERE! NONE OF YOU LOOK SO VERY MUCH!"

"HERE! SUBMARINER THAT'S PART OF THE STRANGE HOAX! I REMEMBER! NAMENA!"

"NAMENA! GOOSE ES IN BOOK THE FOREHEAD— THAT'S WHAT HECTOR MUST HAVE MEANT! I'LL TAKE THIS WHOLE SHMO ALONG FOR THE UNVEILING!

IN THE NEXT ROOM...

"IT'S OPENING THE CHEST!"

"THIS DOES IT!! I FOUND THE FOREHEAD OPENING! MMM... INSIDE'S ANOTHER KNOB... THERE, I'VE PRESSED IT!

FROM OUT OF THE BROAD BRONZE CHEST...

"BOOKS ON DEMOCRACY! THOSE WERE HIS TREASURES— HIS GREAT RICHES!

"WHAT? NO JEWELS? NO GOLD?

"THESE BOOKS ARE WORTH FAR MORE! THIS LEARNING IS PRICELESS!

"HE SAID 'RICHES FOR OUR PEOPLE!' I WILL GO BACK, GIVE THEM THESE— OUR PEOPLE ARE RESTLESS—PERHAPS A FINAL STEP...

SOME WEEKS LATER...

"THEY DID IT! SHAZAM AND ALL! WHILE TARSCOLL, CLIMAXUS AND THEIR BUNCH PAID THE PENALTY HERE FOR KRONIN'S MURDER! JUSTICE HAS THE LAST LAUGH, ALWAYS!

I WONDER WHY WE'RE NOT POPULAR SIS?
ASK YOUR FRIEND TOM
TOM WHY DON'T BOB AND I GET INVITED TO PROMS AND PARTIES
FRANKLY JIM IT'S THOSE UGLY BLACKHEADS
AREN'T YOU GLAD WE HEARD ABOUT VACUTEX

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT IN SECONDS

AMAZING NEW SCIENTIFIC METHOD

If you have blackheads, you know how embarrassing they are, how they clog your pores, spoil your appearance and invite criticism. Now you can solve the problem of eliminating blackheads, forever, with the amazing new VACUTEX invention. It extracts ugly blackheads in seconds, painlessly, without squeezing or squeezing the skin. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum around blackheads! Cleans out hard-to-reach plugs of oily, germ laden impurities never touch the skin. Simply place the direction tube over blackhead, throw lever extractor and it's out! Release extractor and blackhead is ejected. VACUTEX does it all! Don't risk infection with old fashioned methods. Order TODAY!

10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

Don't wait until embarrassing criticism makes you act. Don't miss having out on popularity and success because of ugly dirt-clogged pores. ACT NOW! Enjoy the thrill of having a clean skin, free of pore-clogging, embarrassing blackheads. Try Vacutex for 10 days. We guarantee it to do all we claim. If you are not completely satisfied your $1.00 will be immediately refunded.

PUSH COUPON
10 DAY TRIAL

MALLCO PROD. CO.
79 W. 46th St., N. Y. C. 19

MALLCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 4016
79 West 46th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postman $1.00 plus postage. My $1.00 will be refunded if I am not delighted.

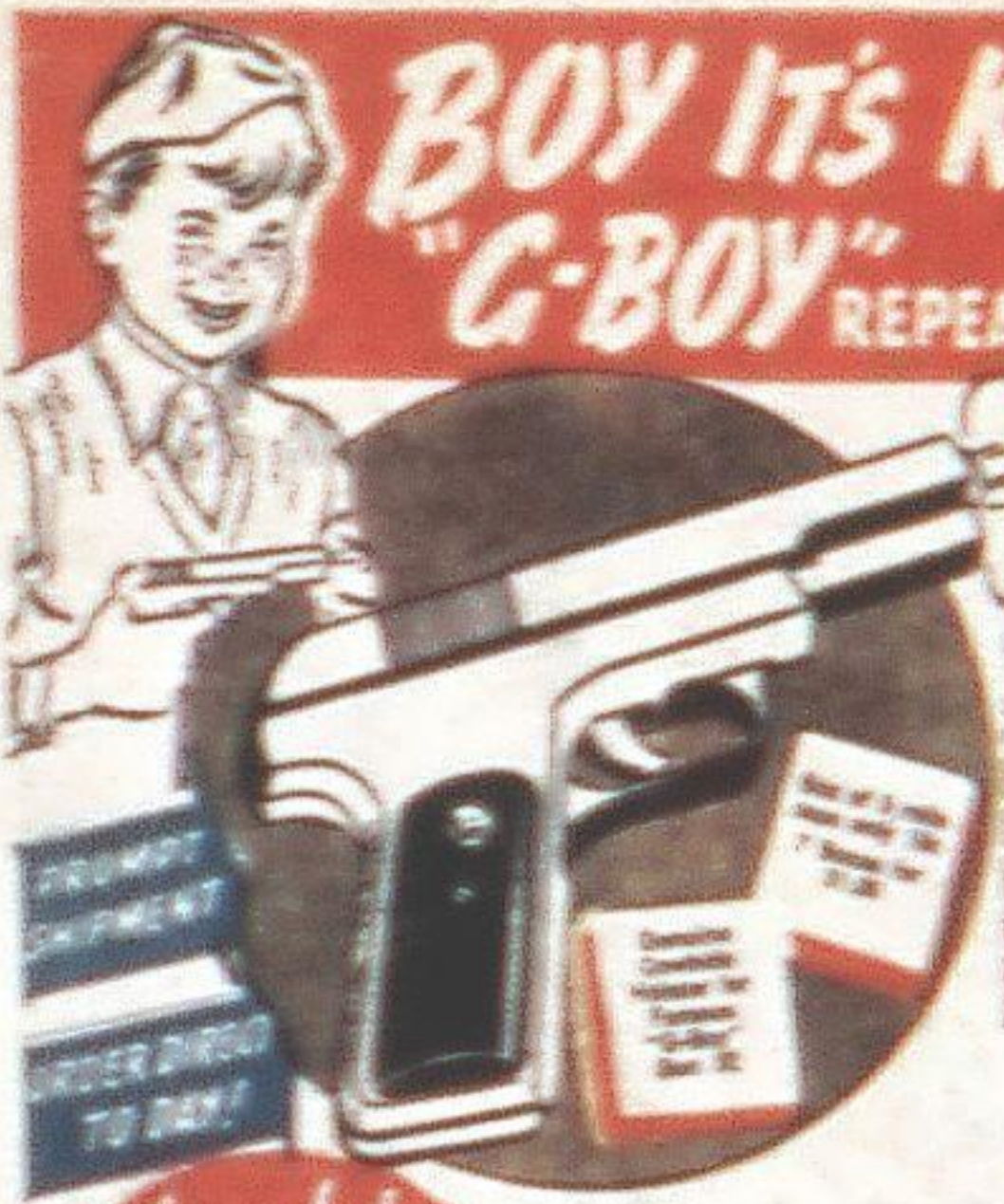
☐ I prefer to enclose $1.00 now and save postage. Same guarantee as above. SORRY NO C.O.D.'s OUTSIDE U. S. A.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZONE _____ STATE _____

BOY IT'S KEEN! A REAL METAL RAPID FIRING "G-BOY" REPEATING CAP PISTOL



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$1.95

ORDER DIRECT — TODAY — PROMPT SHIPMENT

[illegible] Stores, 137 S. Wabash Ave., Dept. [illegible], Chicago 3, Ill.

Gentlemen: Rush me [illegible] at once. Enclosed is $[illegible] in [illegible] Money Order. Please [illegible] and address.

Name [illegible]

Address [illegible]

City [illegible] State [illegible]

Look! STURDY ALL-METAL SKOOTER SKATE

Just What the Doctor and Dizzy Dame Ordered for

$2.59

Plus 21¢ del. [illegible]

- 2 low steel ball bearing wheels
- Will take hard wear.

An ideal toy to make children happy and active. Order several for the whole children you know.

ORDER DIRECT — TODAY — PROMPT SHIPMENT

[illegible] Stores, 137 S. Wabash, Dept. [illegible], Chicago 3, Ill.

Enclosed is $[illegible] Send at once [illegible] KOOL STEEL Skooter Skates at $2.59 each, plus 25¢ each for [illegible] charges.

Name [illegible]

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City [illegible] State [illegible]

PLEASE PRINT

Now Available! For Immediate Shipment! EXCEL 16 MM. Movie Projector

Enjoy the Fun of Movies at Home!

The [illegible] Low-Priced Home Projector Available! Comes [illegible] with 1 200 ft. Reel [illegible] 1 400 ft. Reel [illegible] Different Films [illegible] Set Comes Home [illegible] Projection Screen [illegible] Plug and Power Cord [illegible] and Motor A.C. only [illegible]

FOR ONLY

$17.50

Shipping Weight [illegible]

MAIL COUPON NOW

[illegible] Stores, 137 S. Wabash, Dept. [illegible], Chicago 3, Ill.

Please ship me [illegible] listed below:

[illegible] Excel 16 MM Movie Projector at $17.50 each

[illegible] 200 ft. Reels of "Laugh a Minute" Cartoons at $2.75

[illegible] $

Sales Tax where [illegible] $

Postage $

Check Here If You Want [illegible] Catalog

[illegible] Film Catalog Coupon [illegible] Send [illegible]

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WANTED! *Skinny Weaklings* to become HE-MEN

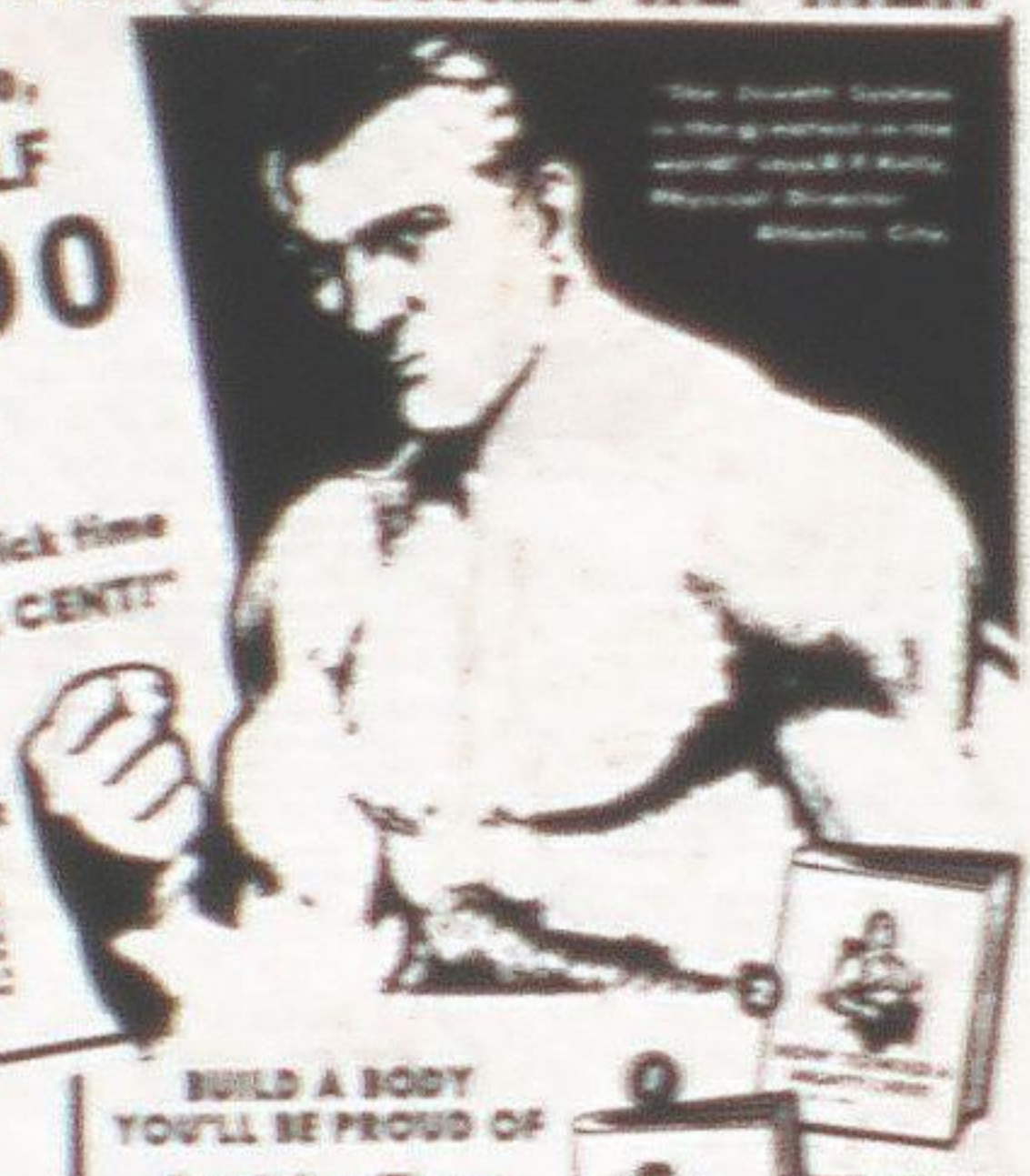
"Let me show YOU too, HOW TO MAKE YOURSELF

COMMANDO -TOUGH

inside and out ... in double quick time —OR IT WON'T COST YOU A CENT!"

says *George F. Jowett*

whom experts call the WORLD'S GREATEST BODY BUILDER



Give me 10 Minutes a Day

Learn My Time Tested Secrets of Strength

I teach you the "Progressive Power Method" through which results myself from a physical wreck (the doctors condemned me at 12) to the holder of many strength records (that are other living athletes of whether "Progressive Power" has proven ability to build the strongest, handsomest man in the world. And I stand ready to show you as a money back guarantee no matter how flabby or puny you are I can do the same for you right in your own home. Through my proven secrets I bring the new power in you inside and out until YOU are fully developed into all the man you want to be. MY TIME TESTED METHODS RE-BUILD YOU.

PROVE TO YOURSELF IN ONE NIGHT

And only 25c as full payment for my 144 course "Building A Mighty Arm." Try it for one night! Experience the thrilling strength that will surge through your muscles.

READ WHAT THESE FAMOUS PUPILS SAY ABOUT JOWETT

A. PASSEMONT, [illegible] athletic title has been awarded [illegible] first prize medal for Physical Perfection.

REX TERRIS, Champion Pennsylvania Junior [illegible] says he "[illegible] everything to [illegible] perfect." Look at this [illegible] physique! He takes it from Jowett!

BUILD A BODY YOU'LL BE PROUD OF

Send for These FIVE Famous Courses NOW in BOOK FORM ONLY 25c EACH or ALL 5 for $1

At last, Jowett's world-famous muscle-building courses are available in book form to all readers of this publication at an extremely low price of 25 cents each! All 5 for only $1.00. You owe it to your country, to your family, and to yourself to make yourself physically fit now. Start at once to improve your physique by following Jowett's simple, easy method of muscle building.

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FREE!

This amazing book has guided thousands of weaklings to muscular power. Packed with photos of miracle men of might and muscle who started perhaps weaker than you are. Read the thrilling adventures of Jowett in strength that inspired his pupils to follow him. They'll show you the best way to might and muscle. Send for this FREE gift book of PHOTOS OF FAMOUS STRONG MEN.

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George F. Jowett: Your proposition looks good to me. Send by return mail, prepaid, the courses checked below, for which I enclose [ ]. Include FREE book of PHOTOS.

- [ ] All 5 courses for $1
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(Please Print Plainly. Include Zone Number)

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It's Exciting To Be In!

AUTHENTIC

BOMBARDIER COCKPIT with TARGETS and BOMBS

BE A REAL PILOT RIGHT AT HOME!

$1.98 POSTPAID

HERE'S ALL YOU GET

Complete Cockpit

Instrument "Z" light with controls, gauges, sighting rifle and realistic bar and bombing sights.

Secret Bombsight

Actual American bombsight duplicate, used by our precision bombardiers. Many reflecting parts etc.

Flying Instructions

A complete manual on "how to fly" from a bomber and bombing methods explained.

Labels, Dice and Air Targets

Realistic ships, planes, factories and cities included for real bombing skill.

Practical Test

Test yourself, your friends and instructors.

Air Beacon

Your navigation aid to guide ships to you.

You Get to Keep This

FLYER'S GOOD LUCK RABBIT'S FOOT FREE

IF NOT SATISFIED

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Please rush my Bombardier Cockpit with Targets and Bombs. ALL 3 FOR ONLY ONE DOLLAR. If I'm not completely satisfied I may keep the Magic Book as a gift and return the Cockpit-Bombsight and Instruction Set for a full refund.

CHECK ONE

☐ I'm enclosing $1.98 payment in full. Ship POSTPAID.

☐ Ship C.O.D. I'll pay postman $1.98, plus postage charges.

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Oh Boy! MORE FUN THAN A 3-RING CIRCUS!

Mystifying INVISIBLE INK

Amazing CODE-O-GRAPH DEVICE

Thrilling FEATS of MAGIC

HOW YOU CAN BE A "Z" SECTION OF BOMBER CREW!

When written with the secret chemical your message actually disappears as it dries. No one can read it but the one you write the message to whom you have given the magic "Locate of Ink". Then one can this miraculous formation can be passed, drawing, secret messages, corrections, important notes, blue prints and drawings. Anything you want to keep secret will be kept completely invisible until you want to read it.

OPEN A MAGIC SECRET CODE PROGRESSIVE

Complete cryptology - secret code device makes it easy to send by message communications or top secret espionage work. The complete Code-O-Graph machine has to correct every secret code and description includes messages including Secret Code Reveal, 2 secret messages pads, Secret Service Identity Card, and 2 Code-O-Graph devices—one for yourself and one for your best friend so that no one can decode the secret messages you send.

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Think of the fun you'll have astounding your friends with the 75 mystifying tricks and baffling illusions explained in this Wizard Magic Kit. Includes complete instructions to wizard, a disappearing Chinese coin, all the equipment you need to "save a woman in jail," plus a secret-mind "mind-reading" trick that enables you to discover what other people are thinking about—enough material to put on a "professional" magic show.

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☐ I'm enclosing $1 payment in full. Ship POSTPAID.

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